



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/075,833	02/13/2002	Jean-Yves Le Naour	PF010013	9013

7590 02/01/2005

JOSEPH S. TRIPOLI  
THOMSON MULTIMEDIA LICENSING INC.  
2 INDEPENDENCE WAY  
P. O. BOX 5312  
PRINCETON, NJ 08543-5312

EXAMINER

LE, NHAN T

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2685

DATE MAILED: 02/01/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/075,833

Applicant(s)

LE NAOUR ET AL.

Examiner

Nhan T Le

Art Unit

2685

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 February 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4-6,8-10 and 12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,5,6,9 and 10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4,8 and 12 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

1. Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Igarashi et al (US 6,236,848) in view of Takagi (US 6,226,504) further in view of Zhang (US 6,285,863).

As to claims 1, 5, 9, Igarashi teaches a method of automatic control of the gain in a radio frequency signal reception device, the device comprising at least one first low-noise amplification stage placed following a reception antenna (see fig. 4, number 109, col. 1, lines 26-30), and at least one variable-gain device placed in the reception facility (see fig. 4, number 114, col. 1, lines 36-40), characterized in that the adjustment of the gain until a predetermined noise level is obtained at the end of the reception facility (see fig. 4, numbers 116, 117, col. 1, lines 42-54). Igarashi fails to teach a neutralization method of the signal received by the antenna. Takagi teaches a neutralization method of the signal received by the antenna (see col. 3, lines 4-24, 53-67). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the teaching of Takagi into the system of Igarashi in order to control power supply to low noise amplifier. The combination of Igarashi and Takagi fails to teach during signal reception, the following steps are performed: extraction of the noise power

at the end of the reception facility, adjustment of the gain until a predetermined noise level is obtained. Zhang teaches during signal reception, the following steps are performed: extraction of the noise power at the end of the reception facility, adjustment of the gain until a predetermined noise level is obtained (see fig. 2, numbers 106, 109, col. 1, lines 41-67, col. 2, lines 1-12, col. 6, lines 14-33). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the teaching of Zhang into the system of Igarashi and Takagi in order to control the gain of variable amplifier.

As to claims 2, 6, 10, the combination of Igarashi, Takagi and Zhang also teaches the method characterized in that the neutralization of the signal received is carried out by cutting off the supply to the first low-noise amplification stage (see Takagi col. 3, lines 53-67).

#### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claims 4, 8, 12 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

As to claim 4, the applied reference fails to teach the methods of sampling and digitization of the signal at the end of the reception facility; digital demodulation of the digitized signal; modulation of the demodulated signal; calculation of the noise power from the modulated signal and the digitized signal as cited in the claim.

As to claims 8, 12, the applied reference fails to teach the device with means of sampling and means of converting the signal at the end of the facility into a digitized

signal; means for performing the digital demodulation of the signal and for obtaining a demodulated signal; digital modulation means for modulating the demodulated signal and obtaining a modulated signal; means for calculating the noise power from the modulated signal and the digitized signal as cited in the claim.

### ***Conclusion***

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Lee et al (US 6,690,944) teaches power control of multi-subchannel mobile station in mobile communication system.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nhan T Le whose telephone number is 703-305-4538. The examiner can normally be reached on 08:00-05:00 (Mon-Fri).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Urban can be reached on 703-305-4385. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

*Nguyen T. Vo*  
1-31-2005

**NGUYENT.VO  
PRIMARY EXAMINER**